AMENDMENTS

The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A method of producing a genetically modified plant characterized as having dwarf adult stature, said method comprising:

(a) contacting a plant cell with a vector containing an exogenous nucleic acid sequence comprising at least one structural gene encoding a BAS 1 polypeptide, said gene being operably associated with a regulatory sequence that causes overexpression of the gene, to obtain a transformed plant cell;

(b) producing a plant from said transformed plant cell; and

(c) selecting a plant exhibiting said dwarf adult stature.

2. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the regulatory sequence comprises a constitutive promoter or an inducible promoter.

3. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid further comprises a selectable marker.

4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous plant, or a monocotyledonous plant.

5. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said BAS1 polypeptide has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

6. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said exogenous nucleic acid sequence has the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

7. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said genetically modified plant exhibits green foliage that is darker than a wild-type plant.

8. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the contacting is by physical means.

9. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the contacting is by chemical means.

10. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the plant cell is selected from the group consisting of protoplasts, gamete producing cells, and cells which regenerate into whole plants.

11. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid is contained in a T-DNA derived vector.

12. (previously presented) A genetically modified plant comprising at least one exogenous nucleic acid sequence encoding an BAS1 polypeptide in its genome or at least one regulatory sequence that modifies expression of an endogenous basl gene, wherein the plant is characterized as having a dwarf adult stature.

13. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 12, wherein the plant contains multiple exogenous nucleic acid sequences encoding a BAS 1 polypeptide.

14. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 12, wherein the BAS1 polypeptide has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

15. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 12, wherein the plant comprises darker green leaves in adult plants in comparison to green leaves in a wild-type adult plant.

16. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 12, wherein the nucleic acid sequence has the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

17. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 12, wherein the exogenous nucleic acid sequence is operably associated with a regulatory nucleic acid sequence.

18. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 17, wherein the regulatory nucleic acid sequence comprises a promoter.

19. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 18, wherein the promoter is a constitutive promoter.

20. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 18, wherein the promoter is an inducible promoter.

21. (previously presented) The plant of Claim 12, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous or a monocotyledonous plant.

22. (previously presented) A seed that germinates into a plant comprising at least one exogenous basl nucleic acid sequence in its genome; wherein the plant is characterized as having a dwarf adult stature.

23. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 22, wherein the plant comprises multiple exogenous nucleic acid sequences encoding a BAS 1 polypeptide.

24. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 22, wherein the BAS1 polypeptide has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

25. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 22, wherein the plant comprises darker green leaves in adult plants in comparison to green leaves in a wild-type adult plant.

26. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 22, wherein the basl nucleic acid sequence has the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

27. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 22, wherein the basl nucleic acid sequence is operably associated with a regulatory nucleic acid sequence.

28. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 27, wherein the regulatory nucleic acid sequence comprises a promoter.

29. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 28, wherein the promoter is a constitutive promoter.

30. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 28, wherein the promoter is an inducible promoter.

31. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 22, wherein the plant is a dicotyledonous plant.

32. (previously presented) The seed of Claim 22 wherein the plant is a monocotyledonous plant.